



IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Splinter, et al

ATTY'S DOCKET: 4442-75872

SERIAL NO.: 10/579,482

GROUP ART UNIT:

FILING DATE: May 16, 2006

CONFIRMATION NO: 1603

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

HONORABLE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

Submitted herewith is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement for consideration in the above-identified application. This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is submitted.

X Within 3 months (1) of filing date of a national application; (2) of date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR §1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last. (No fee is required.)

— After the mailing date of a first Office Action but before (1) mailing of a final action under 37 CFR §1.113; or (2) mailing of a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

— Payment for the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) accompanies this submission; or

— The certification specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e) is made below. (No fee is required.)

— After the mailing of (1) a final action under 37 CFR §1.113; or (2) a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311 whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue. The certification specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e) is made below. The Commissioner hereby is petitioned to consider the Information Disclosure Statement accompanying this submission. Payment for the Petition fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1) accompanies this submission.

— The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies each item of information identified in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

— The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, or to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.

\_\_\_\_\_ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover any required fee is enclosed.

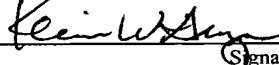
X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 19-3140. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for this purpose.*

Respectfully submitted,

 (Reg. No. 29,927)  
Kevin W. Guynn  
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD  
Customer Account No. 24978  
Attorneys for Applicant

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD  
Customer Account No. 24978  
300 S. Wacker Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6771  
(312) 987-360-0080

I hereby certify that this document and any being referred to as attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

1/17/08   
Date Signature

Sheet 1 of 1

P.T.O. 1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF OTHER ITEMS CITED BY APPLICANT (use several sheets if necessary)					Docket No. 4442-75872		Serial No. 10/579,482	
					Applicant C. Splinter, et al			
					Filing Date May 16, 2006		Group Art Unit	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate	
	AA	412,558	10/08/1889	A.P. Stephens				
	AB	5,000,392	03/19/1991	Kästingschäfer, et al				
	AC	5,269,477	12/14/1993	Buchholtz, et al				
	AD							
	AE							
	AF							
	AG							
	AH							
	AI							
	AJ							
	AK							
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	EP 1502650	02/02/2005	Europe				
	AM	4400797	07/20/1995	German				
	AN	4032615	04/16/1992	German				
	AO	0396897	11/14/1990	Europe				
	AP	0516952	09/12/1992	Europe				
	AQ							
	AR							
	AS							
<b>OTHER ITEMS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>								
	AT							
	AU							
	AV							
	AW							
Examiner			Date Considered					
<b>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</b>								